wasted and sometimes protracted litigation is found to be necessary. All that should be avoided in the interests of the temples. It is also necessary, especially in the case of very important and big temples, to appoint a salaried officer on the model of the Tirupathi Devasthanam, who will devote his full time to the administration of the temples. To achieve that object, power is given to the Government to notify temples after consulting with the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

1-30 p.m. "The Hindu Religious Endowments Board has power to appoint a salaried official, to prescribe the duties he has to perform; various other functions are entrusted to the Board; the Government has only to satisfy itself as to the necessity of notifying the important temples; that is one of the chief clauses of the Bill.

"It is also found that the Hindu Religious Endowments Board have not sufficient funds to see that proper audit is made with regard to the religious endowments. In order to meet the present difficulty the Board as well as some members of this Council made a request that the Government should supply funds necessary for audit and other purposes, and the request has not been complied with, with the result that the accounts of a number of institutions are not audited at all. You know, Sir, how important it is, that proper audit of the accounts of these religious endowments is done; in order to meet the present difficulty of finance, provision is made in this Bill that the expenses of audit should be met from the funds of the institutions themselves. The doubt regarding whether certain provisions of the Act with regard to audit, etc., can be applied to specific endowments is sought to be removed in the Bill. These are some of the important provisions of the Bill.

"Sir, it is held that the power to direct the taking of accounts is not included in section 73 of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act. The directing of taking accounts of a trustee's management of a religious institution is essential in the interests of the trust. With these words I move that my Bill may be referred to the Select Committee."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"I second it."

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Sir, I accept the principle underlying this Bill. With regard to some of the provisions we find it necessary to make very great changes. Of course it will be the duty of the Select Committee to look into these matters."

The motion was put and carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again the next day at 11 a.m.

X.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

[a] *G.O. No. 83, Development, dated 19th January 1934, recording the Audit report on the accounts of the Cinchona department, Ootacamund, for the year ending 31st March 1933.*

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Printed separately.